

Environmental Justice Screening Form

Project Name	Weymouth Neck Infrastructure Improvements Project
Anticipated Date of MEPA Filing	May 1, 2023
Proponent Name	Town of Weymouth
Contact Information (e.g., consultant)	Town of Weymouth Engineering Department (781) 337-5100 wniip@weymouth.ma.us
Public website for project or other physical location where project materials can be obtained (if available)	https://www.weymouth.ma.us/engineering
Municipality and Zip Code for Project (if known)	Weymouth 02189
Project Type* (list all that apply)	Coastal Infrastructure; Resiliency
Is the project site within a mapped 100-year FEMA flood plain? Y/N/unknown	Yes
Estimated GHG emissions of conditioned spaces (click here for GHG Estimation tool)	No conditioned spaces/buildings are proposed as part of this project. No residential dwellings or commercial buildings intended for human use or occupancy are proposed.

Project Description

1. Provide a brief project description, including overall size of the project site and square footage of proposed buildings and structures if known.

This coastal infrastructure improvements project is located in Weymouth Neck, in the vicinity of Fort Point Road and George Lane Beach, within the limits of an approximately 5.2-acre project site. The Project includes the removal and replacement of approximately 2,900 linear feet of concrete seawall, with an increase in seawall height by 1.5' to elevation 12.0 NAVD88. The Project also proposes significant improvements to the existing stormwater drainage system. The existing drainage system will be replaced and upsized while providing additional treatment and storage to help reduce flooding and improve stormwater quality. Six existing undersized and poorly located drainage outfalls will be removed and replaced with three larger outfalls located at more ideal locations. The drainage outfalls will be fitted with check valves to prevent surcharging of the drainage system during high tides.

Various dilapidated concrete pads, structures, and stairs will be removed from the project area and replaced with six sets of timber/concrete hybrid stairs. An ADA-accessible access and viewing point will be added to George Lane Beach. In areas where Fort Point Road is wider than required for vehicle traffic, the seawall is proposed to be relocated approximately 5 feet landward, reducing encroachment to the resource area and allowing a greater distance for wave runup to allow for energy dissipation. On George Lane Beach, the area directly in front of the seawall is proposed to be enhanced with a natural berm with plantings.

2. List anticipated MEPA review thresholds (301 CMR 11.03) (if known)

The proposed project will utilize funds from the MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) and will require state permits including a Chapter 91 License and Individual 401 Water Quality Certification. The project triggers review under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) with an Environmental Notification Form (ENF) pursuant to the following ENF review thresholds:

- 11.03(1)(b)(1)(a): Alteration of a coastal bank
- 11.03(1)(b)(1)(3): New fill or structure or Expansion of existing fill or structure in a velocity zone or regulatory floodway
- 11.03(3)(b)(1)(f): Alteration of ½ or more acres of “any other wetlands”. “Any other wetlands” includes Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage (LSCSF).

No mandatory Environmental Impact Report (EIR) thresholds are triggered by the proposed project. The Project does not exceed any review thresholds relative to air quality, nor is the project anticipated to result in 150 or more new average daily trips of diesel vehicle traffic over a duration of one (1) year or more.

3. List all anticipated state, local and federal permits needed for the project (if known)

- MA Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) – ENF Certificate and FEIR Certificate
- MA Department of Environmental Protection – Chapter 91 License
- MA Department of Environmental Protection – Individual 401 Water Quality Certification
- Army Corps of Engineers – Individual Permit [Sections 10 and 404]
- Weymouth Conservation Commission - Order of Conditions
- MA Coastal Zone Management – Federal Consistency Review
- MA Historical Commission Project Notification Form (PNF) – concurrent with MEPA ENF
- EPA NPDES Construction General Permit – eNOI and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan

4. Identify EJ populations and characteristics (Minority, Income, English Isolation) within 5 miles of project site (can attach map identifying 5-mile radius from [EJ Maps Viewer](#) in lieu of narrative)

Please refer to attached EJ Maps Viewer map.

5. Identify any municipality or census tract meeting the definition of “vulnerable health EJ criteria” in the [DPH EJ Tool](#) located in whole or in part within a 1 mile radius of the project site

The identified census tract is located in a different municipality and across a waterbody (Weymouth Fore River).

<u>Geo ID</u>	<u>Block Group</u>	<u>Census Tract</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Health Topic</u>
250214178022	2	4178.02	Quincy	Elevated Blood Lead Prevalence

6. Identify potential short-term and long-term environmental and public health impacts that may affect EJ Populations and any anticipated mitigation

Potential short-term impacts are associated with the construction period. Robust construction-period BMPs will be incorporated into the project. Dust during construction will be mitigated by sediment and erosion control barriers, application of calcium chloride to exposed gravel, and application of water to dry areas. Work will be conducted during normal business hours. Options for traffic circulation and siting laydown/construction support areas along this linear project area have been carefully considered.

7. Identify project benefits, including “Environmental Benefits” as defined in 301 CMR 11.02, that may improve environmental conditions or public health of the EJ population

This coastal infrastructure improvements project will provide environmental benefits such as improved access to clean natural resources including water resources.

The project incorporates enhancements that are a result of a public process that included feedback from Town residents.

Project benefits include:

- **Improvement of existing critical coastal infrastructure within one of the most vulnerable areas for coastal flooding in Weymouth. The project addresses several high-priority items identified in the Weymouth Hazard Mitigation Plan and Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Plan (MVP).**
- **Stormwater drainage improvements to manage tidal or storm-surge inundation and stormwater quality improvements**
- **Improved public safety and public access to recreational areas**
- **Improved ADA accessibility and installation of viewing platform at George Lane Beach**

8. Describe how the community can request a meeting to discuss the project, and how the community can request oral language interpretation services at the meeting . Specify how to request other accommodations, including meetings after business hours and at locations near public transportation.

Residents and project abutters are encouraged to contact the Town to ask any questions and provide feedback on the project. The Town has scheduled a public informational session to share more details about the Project and solicit feedback from residents.

When: Thursday, April 6, 2023 6:00 PM-8:00 PM

Where: 182 Green Street, Mary McElroy Room, Weymouth, MA 02191

Please note that a virtual meeting option will be offered. Please check the Town’s Engineering Department website above for more information or email the Town at wniip@weymouth.ma.us.